

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The Examiner has rejected the present invention claims based upon Moss alone, Dion-Bildstein alone, and each in combination with several other prior art inventions. The applicant believes her invention is different and has amended her claims in a way that she believes now distinguishes her invention from Moss, Dion-Bildstein, and the other prior art. A complete listing of all claims follows, with added language underlined and deleted language having strike-through markings. The applicant also believes that her changes to the claims have been made without adding new matter.

LISTING OF CLAIMS – with added language underlined and deleted language having strike-through markings

1. (Currently Amended) A container for the temporary storage of clean and sanitary pacifiers, teething devices, small toys, and other small baby-related objects that in a baby's or child's possession are frequently drooled on, dropped on the ground, covered with food, and/or otherwise in need of cleaning prior to being returned to the baby or child, said container comprising:

a substantially cylindrical non-stretching main body having a hollow interior, a height dimension, a bottom portion, a top portion, a top opening with a minimum circumference configured to allow insertion therethrough of a large adult male hand, said main body also having at least one rearwardly-positioned vertically extending structural strip integral to said main body that is configured and positioned to prevent collapse of said top opening, said at least one vertically extending strip extending substantially across said height dimension, at least one horizontally extending structural strip integral to said main body and at a minimum substantially encircling said main body, said at least one horizontally extending strip structurally joined to said at least one vertically extending strip; with ~~being made in part from~~ open-weave material configured to allow air circulation through said main body adjacent to and adjoining said at least one horizontally extending strip and said at least one vertically extending strip, and further with said open-weave material forming a majority of said main body between said top and bottom portions thereof, with all materials used for construction of said main body being flexible, soft-textured, and washable while at the same time having a sufficient thickness dimension: that

enables said top opening in said main body to remain open at all times for prompt and direct user access to contents stored within said hollow interior, and further with said strips and said top portion being made from non-open-weave materials; and

quick-release fastening means adapted to temporarily and securely attach said main body and any contents therein to a supporting structure conveniently situated to a commonly used child care location, said quick-release fastening means being connected to said main body so that any sanitary baby-related objects placed therein remain sanitary, and are readily and directly accessible to people caring for babies and small children for prompt delivery to a baby or child in need of one for comfort.

2. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said quick-release fastening means is selected from a group consisting of straps permanently attached to and structurally integral with said main body as vertically extending strips, elongated straps, detachable straps configured for quick-release connection to said at least one vertically extending strip, two-part hook-and-pile fasteners, and snaps.

3. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 2 comprising at least one detachable strap and wherein said at least one detachable strap comprises an upper end, and further wherein said quick-release fastening means comprises at least one quick-release two-part first fastener configured for connecting said at least one detachable strap to said ~~main body~~ at least one vertically extending strip, and wherein said quick-release fastening means further comprises at least one second quick-release two-part fastener configured for securely forming said upper end of said at least one strap into a closed loop that is usable in repeatedly attaching and reattaching said main body to baby and child supporting devices and other objects near to child care

locations that are configured for securely supporting said main body by said at least one closed loop.

4. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 3 wherein said main body has a back surface ~~with~~ and at least one vertically extending structural strip of non-open-weave material integral with said back surface, and further wherein said at least one quick-release two-part first fastener configured for connecting said at least one strap to said main body secures said at least one strap to said at least one vertically extending strip.

5. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 3 wherein said main body has a back surface and at least one vertically extending structural strip of non-open-weave material integral with said back surface, and further wherein said quick-release fastening means comprises at least one quick-release two-part fastener a first part of which is secured to said ~~back surface~~ at least one vertically extending strip, with the second part of said at least one quick-release two-part fastener ~~being attached~~ to a support surface so that said main body via said at least one vertically extending strip is attachable directly to said support surface without the use of any straps.

6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said main body has a back surface and at least one vertically extending structural strip of non-open-weave material integral with said back surface, and further wherein said quick-release fastening means comprises at least one quick-release two-part fastener a first part of which is secured to said ~~back surface~~ at least one vertically extending strip, with the second part of said at least one quick-release two-part fastener ~~being attached~~ to a support surface so that said main body via said at least one vertically extending strip is attachable directly to said support surface without the use of straps.

7. (Original) The device of claim 1 further comprising markings selected from a group

consisting of informational markings and design markings.

8. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 ~~further comprising at least one horizontally extending strip of non-open-weave material~~ 3 comprising at least two detachable straps and wherein said quick-release fastening means is adapted for connecting each said strap to itself to form a loop to attach said main body to a horizontally extending structure, also adapted for connecting said straps to one another in an overlapping configuration to attach said main body to a vertically extending structure, and further adapted for connecting said main body directly to a vertically extending planar support structure without the use of said straps.

9. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 8 further comprising markings placed on said at least one horizontally extending strip of ~~closely woven non-open-weave~~ material and wherein said markings are selected from a group consisting of informational markings and design markings.

10. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 further comprising a bottom surface made from materials selected from a group consisting of non-open-weave material and open-weave material.

11. (Currently Amended) . A container for the temporary storage of clean and sanitary pacifiers, teething devices, small toys, and other small baby-related accessories that in a baby's or child's possession are frequently drooled on, dropped on the ground, covered with food, and/or otherwise in need of cleaning prior to being returned to the baby or child, said container comprising:

a compact main body configured without sharp corners and having a hollow interior, a top portion, and a bottom portion, said main body also having a top opening configured for direct

and immediate access of a large adult male hand to baby-related accessories placed within said hollow interior, and said main body further having at least one rearwardly-positioned vertically extending structural strip integral to said main body that is configured and positioned to prevent collapse of said top opening, said at least one vertically extending strip extending substantially across said main body, at least one horizontally extending structural strip integral to said main body and at a minimum substantially encircling said main body, said at least one horizontally extending strip structurally joined to said at least one vertically extending strip; with being made in part from open-weave material configured to allow air circulation through said main body and not entangle contents positioned adjacent to and adjoining said at least one horizontally extending strip and said at least one vertically extending strip, and further with said open-weave material forming a majority of said main body between said top and bottom portions thereof;

at least one strap ~~attached to~~ depending from said main body and selected from a group consisting of straps integral with said main body and forming a vertically extending structural strip and straps detachably connected to said main body via said at least one vertically extending strip, said at least one strap having an unattached portion and quick-release fastening means secured to said unattached portion by which said unattached portion is optionally formed into a looped configuration usable for suspended attachment of said main body to the top rail of a baby crib; and

said main body and said at least one strap being made from materials that are flexible, soft-textured, and washable so that without injury to babies and small children said at least one strap can temporarily secure said main body to cribs and other baby-holding devices while sanitary baby-related accessories placed within said main body become immediately available to

a people caring for babies and small children and needing such accessories.

12. (Original) The device of claim 11 wherein said at least one strap is repeatedly detachable from said main body.

13. (Original) The device of claim 11 wherein said main body has a back surface and further comprising at least one additional two-part fastener attached to said back surface that is configured for directly securing said back surface to a support surface.

14. (Original) The device of claim 11 further comprising markings on said main body that are selected from a group consisting of informational markings and design markings.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for making a temporary storage container for pacifiers, teething devices, and other small toys that babies and small children often drool on, drop on the ground, cover with food, and/or otherwise need cleaning prior to being returned to the child, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a quantity of flexible, soft, and washable reinforcement material, a quantity of flexible, soft, and washable open-weave material adapted to allow air circulation therethrough without entanglement of small items used for the comfort and entertainment of babies and small children, a quantity of non-open-weave material; material attachment means, and a plurality of quick-release fasteners;

using said ~~reinforcement material~~ quantity of non-open-weave material, said open-weave material, and said material attachment means to create a substantially cylindrical main body having a hollow interior, no sharp corners, and a top opening with a minimum circumference configured to allow insertion therethrough of a large adult male hand, while at the same time creating said main body with at least one rearwardly-positioned vertically extending structural

strip integral to said main body that is configured and positioned to prevent collapse of said top opening, and further with said at least one vertically extending strip extending substantially across said main body, concomitantly creating said main body with at least one horizontally extending structural strip integral to said main body and at a minimum substantially encircling said main body, and further with said at least one horizontally extending strip structurally joined to said at least one vertically extending strip; and also creating said main body with open-weave material positioned adjacent to and adjoining said at least one horizontally extending strip and said at least one vertically extending strip, and further with said open-weave material forming a majority of said main body so that said top opening maintains its integrity during use for convenient user access to any contents stored within said main body.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said quick-release fasteners are selected from a group consisting of adhesives, glues, bonding agents, snaps, two-part fasteners, hook-and-pile fasteners, and heat-activated bonding substances, and further comprising a step of securing at least a portion of said quick-release fasteners to said ~~main body~~ at least one vertically extending strip in a position where they are adapted to temporarily and securely attach said main body to a supporting structure.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of providing marking means, and using said marking means to create informational markings on said ~~reinforcement material~~ main body.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of making at least one strap from said ~~reinforcement material~~ non-open-weave material and attaching said at least one strap to said ~~main body~~ at least one vertically extending strip.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 further comprising a step of providing at least one quick-release two-part fastener and a step of securing said at least one quick-release two-part fastener between said ~~main body~~ at least one vertically extending strip and said strap so that said strap is repeatedly detachable.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of ~~making from said reinforcement material and incorporating into said main body additional components selected from a group consisting of vertically extending strips and horizontally extending strips~~ providing filament adapted for topstitching use and using said filament to create topstitching selected from a group consisting of top stitching on straps and top stitching on said main body.